

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 ERDA-05

CIAE-00 COME-00 /025 W

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R 281315Z FEB 75

FM AMCONSUL STUTTGART

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2383

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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COMMERCE FOR EXCON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ESTC, US, UK, MW

SUBJ: EXCON: TRADE ENQUIRY FROM SYSTEL

REF: STUTTGART 0203

1. THIS CABLE PROVIDES BACKGROUND TO "BLIND" TRADE OPPORTUNITY (TO) REQUEST CABLED TO USDOC FEBRUARY 28 (STUTTGART 0205). BLIND TO WAS SUBMITTED TO PROVIDE CONTROL OVER POSSIBLE RESPONSES IN VIEW OF SUSPECTED INVOLVEMENT SYSTEL IN ILLEGAL DIVERSION OF COMPUTER EQUIPMENT TO USSR (REFTEL AND PREVIOUS), AND TO AVOID ALERTING SYSTEL THAT THEY ARE UNDER INVESTIGATION.

2. HERR WALTER EBNER, LOCAL BUSINESS MANAGER OF SYSTEL, WHICH MANUFACTURES TV CAMERAS AND SELLS COMPUTER COMPONENTS, VISITED CONGEN FEBRUARY 27 AND ASKED FOR ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING COMPUTER RELATED EQUIPMENT DIRECTLY FROM THE U.S. IN ANSWER TO CONGEN QUESTIONS, EBNER SAID THAT HE HAD OCCASIONALLY PURCHASED SUCH ITEMS FROM U.S. FIRMS, E.G. DATARAM CORP. , CRANBURY, N.J. AND FROM GERMAN SUBSIDIARY OF U.S. FIRMS, E.G. HEWLETT PACKARD CONGEN OFFICER SAID CONGEN GETS FEW U.S. REQUESTS FOR LOCAL DISTRIBUTIONS OF SUCH U.S. EQUIPMENT,
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BUT THAT CONGEN WOULD SUBMIT A TRADE OPPORTUNITY REQUEST

TO THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ON EBNER'S BEHALF. CONGEN SUGGESTED THAT WELL PUBLICIZED DECEMBER ARREST OF DOZEN PERSONS ON SUSPICION OF ILLEGAL DIVERSION OF COMPUTER PRODUCTS TO USSR (STUTTGART 0055) MIGHT TEND TO SLOW DOWN RECEIPT OF REPLY FROM WASHINGTON

3. EBNER QUERRIED CONGEN INITIALLY IN LATE DECEMBER CONCERNING SUCH ASSISTANCE, BUT DID NOT FOLLOW THROUGH UNTIL FEBRUARY 27. WE DO NOT KNOW REASON FOR HIS DELAY.

4. ACTION REQUESTED.

IF INVESTIGATION AGAINST SYSTEL NOW SUFFICIENTLY ADVANCED TO PERMIT PROMPT DENIAL OF ASSISTANCE TO EBNER, DOC MAY PREFER TO CANCEL BLIND TO AND ADVISE US OF RESPONSE TO GIVE EBNER. IF CASE AGAINST SYSTEL NOT SO ADVANCED, EXCON HAS OPTION TO LET TO PROCEED SHOULD THAT BE DESIRED AS FACTOR IN CONTINUING INVESTIGATION OF SYSTEL OPERATIONS. JENKINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ESPIONAGE, STRATEGIC TRADE CONTROLS, COMPUTERS, INDUSTRIAL IMPORTS, INVESTIGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STUTT00209
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750072-0184
From: STUTTGART
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975021/aaaaaanb.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STUTTGART 0203
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 May 2003 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <21 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXCON: TRADE ENQUIRY FROM SYSTEL
TAGS: ESTC, US, UK, GE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006